



# St. William of York Catholic Primary School

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**Headteacher:** Mrs Hayley Mayers **Admin Officer:** Mrs Joanne Roper

**Acting Deputy Head:** Ms Zoe Thorn

Friday 17th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope you all had a fantastic Christmas and New Year break. Thank you so much for the cards, gifts, vouchers and good wishes, we really do appreciate them all. We are looking forward to a new term filled with learning, fun and positivity. The children have come back to school with a fantastic, positive approach to their work and behaviour which I'm sure will continue as the term progresses.

This term, Year 4's topic is called 'The Vikings are Coming!' Throughout the term, the children will be learning about the Viking civilisation and how they invaded and where they settled. Strong cross-curricular links will allow an opportunity to explore historical, literary and artistic perspectives on a fascinating time period. In the second half of the term, we will focus on London and the South-East, familiarising ourselves with the geographical properties and making links to our Science and English lessons. An outline of the areas we will be covering can be found on the curriculum map, accompanying this letter.

As always, all children are expected to read every day and they will have the opportunity to change their reading books once a week. There will be a strong focus on times tables, with the aim for each child to know all of their times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of the year. Daily practice in school and at home will help them achieve this goal. Weekly spellings will be set on Purple Mash each week as well as Mathletics tasks.

This term, Year 4 will have PE lessons on Monday and Thursday so please ensure that your child brings in their PE kit (indoor and outdoor) in every Monday and takes it home every Friday.

We are looking forward to a fantastic term. Thank you for your continued support. If you have any further queries, please do contact us via the school office or directly at [staylor@swoy.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:staylor@swoy.lewisham.sch.uk).

Kind regards,

Stef Taylor  
Year 4 Class Teacher

## English

This term we will start by reading *Odd and the Frost Giants* which we will use to draft, write, revise and edit our own character-based narratives. We will continue to use shared writing to build an example for the children to work from and ensure they are confident with the different features needed when writing in each style. There will be specific focus speech punctuation and apostrophes.

In Guided Reading, we will be reading daily. We'll be exploring non-fiction and fiction texts. We will be using skills such as prediction, vocabulary and word choice, retrieval and summarising. We would encourage the children to use these skills when reading at home as well.

## Maths

This term we will be building on our previous learning of multiplication and division. We will recap the topic by looking at factor pairs as well as multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100. Next, we will move on to multiplying and dividing two- and three-digit numbers by a 1-digit number.

Following this, we will look at equivalent lengths (kilometres and metres) and apply this to finding the perimeter of shapes including triangles. Later in the term, we will begin to explore fractions and decimals. We will also continue to play games and complete tasks based on times tables up to 12 x 12.

## History

This term we will be learning about the Vikings. Firstly, we will look at where they came from and go on to explore how and why they invaded other countries. We will investigate why they left Scandinavia and why they chose to settle where they did.

We will learn about their many inventions and successes in daily life as well as their ability to travel vast distances.

We will view them in relation to the Anglo-Saxons and their role in British history e.g. Danelaw.

## Science

In Science, we will begin by exploring sound, encompassing how different volumes are achieved and the importance of vibrations when making sounds. We will aim to understand the relationship between distance and sound as well as finding patterns between pitch and volume.

We will then move on to a unit on electricity – adjusting variables, designing and building circuits and problem solving.

## Year 4

Topic: The Vikings are Coming

Teacher: Stef Taylor



## Art

This term we will complete our work on cloth, paint and thread as well as moving on to some still-life sketches and art pieces.

We will study the work of Edvard Munch, with focus on perspective and expressive painting

## RE

This term, we start by looking at Community. We encourage the children to explore communities that they are part of. We will explore some of the roles and responsibilities members of our church community have.

We will move on to exploring Giving and Receiving. When we celebrate the Eucharist, Jesus gives himself to us in Word and Sacrament. We are called to follow the example of Jesus by giving ourselves to others in the world.

The importance of Lent and the Easter story will be the final part of our learning this term.

## PE

This term, Year 4 will have PE lessons on **Monday and Thursday**. Outdoor PE will focus on tennis skills with a series of lessons from the Lawn Tennis Association. The children will be encouraged to be a good team player and to support one another as they develop their skills. Indoor PE will consist of street dance where we will learn a new group dance routine.

## Computing

This term, we will be looking at how to stay safe when sending emails and using the internet. We will explore the dangers of a spam email as well as what it means to leave a digital footprint. Later in the term, we will start to explore the positive and negative impacts of the internet and technology on our health and the environment.